THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 5th December 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras, at two of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Amalgamation of Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam districts.

* 281-A *Q.*—SRI K. V. RAMESAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government contemplate the amalgamation of the two districts of Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam;

(*b*) if so, reasons for the amalgamation; and

(*c*) if there is to be amalgamation whether the Government will be pleased not to exclude the Chodavaram taluk from Visakhapatnam district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" (*a*) The Government have no proposals before them for the amalgamation of the two districts. The Board of Revenue has been asked to state whether it has any proposals and its report is awaited.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise."

SRI K. V. RAMESAM:—" Will the Government be pleased to consider the question of adjusting the jurisdiction of the various district offices such as the Police, Education and others according to the revenue jurisdiction of the respective districts? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" I fail to understand what exactly the hon. Member wants."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO:—" ఇప్పుడు శ్రీకాకుళం, విశాఖపట్నం అని రెండు రెవిన్యూ జిల్లాలుగా విభజించారుకదా ? అలాంటి పరిస్థితులలో Judiciary ని కూడా ఎందుకు విభజించలేదు. శ్రీకాకుళం జిల్లాకు ప్రత్యేకంగా మరొక Judge's Court పెట్టుటకు ఎంత కాలం పడుతుంది ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" If another court is found necessary, it will be provided."

SRI K. V. RAMESAM:—" In the case of the Police Department also, there is a mingling of jurisdiction of one district with the other. May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to have a separate Police department for the Srikakulam district? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" I want notice, Sir."

SRI P. PUNDARIKAKSHACHARYULU :—" Sir, the jurisdiction of the various other departments in the district is different from and not in tune with the revenue jurisdiction of the two districts. Will the Government consider the proposal to adjust the jurisdiction of the various other district officers so that they might be the same as or in tune with that of the Revenue department jurisdiction? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, the question was whether there was a proposal to amalgamate the two districts. Taking advantage of that question they are putting many other questions and I do not understand the import of them."

Enhancement of the pecuniary jurisdiction of District Munsifs' Courts.

* 282 *Q.*—SRI K. V. RAMESAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the Government have not notified the extension of the enhanced pecuniary jurisdiction of the district munsifs' courts in the State of Madras under the Madras Act XVI of 1951 [Madras Civil and Village Courts (Amendment) Act] ; and

(*b*) if not, when the Government propose to do it?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Act has not so far been brought into force because the bulk of the title litigation in this State consists of land suits. Suits for the declaration or partition of land are valued for jurisdiction on the basis of the market value of the land, while suits for possession in respect of the same land are valued on the basis of the land revenue payable in respect of it. Thus there is the anomaly that the valuation of the land in the former case would be at a higher amount than in the latter case. Also, the enhanced jurisdiction which the Act confers on District Munsifs will enable them to try suits for possession of landed properties of immense market value which they were never intended to try because the valuation of the land for purposes of such suits is linked up with the land revenue payable in respect of the land which has not appreciated with reference to market value. In order to rectify the above it is proposed to revise the basis of valuation of lands for purposes of court-fee. The matter is under the consideration of Government. It is the intention of the Government that the Act should be brought into force simultaneously with the revision referred to above."

SRI K. V. RAMESAM :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the value of immovable property has considerably gone up, even by four to five times, will the Government be pleased to notify the extension of the enhanced pecuniary jurisdiction of the District Munsif's Court as soon as possible? "